

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Te the Application of

Whitman

Application No.

10/010,955

Attorney Docket No.

3556-P02472US1

Filed:

November 13, 2001

For:

Surgical Clamping, Cutting And Stapling Device

Examiner:

Smith, Scott A.

Group Art Unit:

3721

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being deposited on the date identified below with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope properly addressed to

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith a Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the references listed thereon. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of a RCE. Accordingly, Applicants believe that no fee is required pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b) (3). In the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the required fees to deposit account no. 04-1406. A duplicate copy of this sheet is included for fee processing, if necessary.

Applicants respectfully request full and proper consideration of the listed information during examination of the application, and that the listed information be printed on any patent that issues therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

DANN, DORFMAN, HERRELL & SKILLMAN

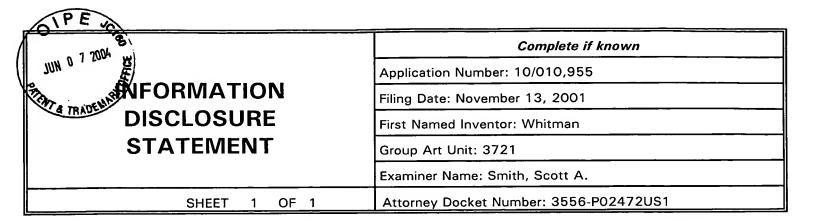
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Telephone: (215) 563-4100 Facsimile: (215) 563-4044 Enclosures - Form PTO-1449

Copies of references listed on PTO - 1449



UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER'S CITE PATENT NU INITIALS NO.		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR			
		6,616,446	09/09//2003	Schmid			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER'S . INITIALS	CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	COUNTRY OR REGION	DATE OF PUBLICATION MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR OR APPLICANT			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in Capital Letters), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published			

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609. Draw a line through citation if citation not in conformance and reference not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.